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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 07395 291820Z

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01

ACDA-05 /064 W

----- 110014

R 291557Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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INFO B/AMEMBASSY BELGRADE 2351

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT,UR

SUBJECT: KIRILENKO AND MAZUROV RISE IN LEADERSHIP STATUS RANKING

REF: MOSCOW 6710, MAY 6, 1974

1. TABULATIONS OF THE NOMINATIONS OF THE TOP SOVIET POLITICAL LEADERS IN LOCAL ELECTION DISTRICTS HAVE BEEN COMPILED FROM THE SOVIET CENTRAL AND REPUBLIC PRESS, AND AS IN 1974 (REFTEL) REVEAL SOVIET'S SELF-ADMINISTERED POLITICAL PECKING ORDER. TWO TABULATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE: FIRST IS DRAWN SOLELY FROM PRAVDA REPORTAGE AND GIVES ONLY APPROXIMATE PICTURE OF LEADERSHIP STANDINGS. SECOND TABULATION IS NATIONAL TOTAL AND REVEALS GRADATIONS AND SUBTLETIES OF GREAT INTEREST.

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2. PRAVDA TABULATION GIVES BREZHNEV 26 NOMIATIONS;
13 EACH TO PODGORNYY AND KOSYGIN; 4 EACH TO KIRILENKO
ANS SUSLOV; 2 EACH FOR REMAINING FULL MEMBERS OF
POLITBURO; CANDIDTATE MEMBERS AND CPSU SECRETAREIS
GET 1 EACH.

3. NATIONAL TABULATION REVELAS FOLLOWING:
BREZHNEV - 137; PODGORNYY - 73; KOSYGIN - 69;
KIRILENKO - 44; SUSLOV - 40; MAZUROV - 28;
KULADOV - 24; GRECHKO AND PELSHE - 22; GROMYKO - 18;
ANDROPOV - 17. POLYANSKIY - 16; SCHCHERBITSKIY - 14;
KUAYEV - 11; GRISHIN - 6; USTINOV - 9; DEMICHEV
AND PONOMAREV 8; MASHEROV, RASHIDOV AND SOLOMENTSEV - 2;
ROMANOV - 1; KAPITONOV - 10; DOLGIKH - 9;
KATUSHEV - 8.

4. THE PATTERN OF NOMINATIONS OF BREZHNEV BY
UNION REPUBLIC FOLLOWS: RSFSR - 18; ARMENIA - 5;
AZERBAYDZHAN - 2; BELORUSSIA - 6; ESTONIA - 16;
GEORGIA - 3; KAZAKHSTAN - 19; KIRGIZIA - 8; LATVIA - 1;
LITHUANIA - 4; MOLDAVIA - 18; UZBEKISTAN 5;
TADZHIKISTAN - 6; TURKMENISTAN - 5; UKRAINE - 22.

5. COMMENT: WHAT THESE NUMBERS BOIL DOWN TO IS AN
IMPROVEMENT IN STANDING FOR KIRILENKO WHO IN 1975
FORGES AHEAD OF SUSLOV WHEREAS IN 1974 HE WAS
3 VOTES BEHIND HIM. MAZUROV HAS PUSHED AHEAD OF
KULAKOV THIS YEAR. THE OTHER STANDINGS ARE NOT
MUCH DIFFENRET FROM THOSE OF LAST YEAR.

5. THE REPUBLIC TALLIES FOR BREZHNEV MAKE SENSE
FOR THE RSFSR, UKRAINE, KAZAKHSTAN, AND MOLDAVIA,
BUT ESTONIA IS AN ANOMALY. WE KNOW OF NO FACT TO
JUSTIFY 16 NOMINATIONS FOR BREZHNEV FROM THE SMALLEST
SOVIET REPUBLIC. END COMMENT.

6. A FURTHER INDICATION OF STATUS COMES THIS YEAR IN
THE ORDER OF APPEARANCES OF THE TOP LEADERS AS THEY
GIVE THEIR PRE-ELCTION SPEECHES. THE ROUND OF
SPEECHES OPENED MAY 27 WITH KUNAYEV AND ROMANOV, AND
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PAGE 03 MOSCOW 07395 291820Z

DOLGIKH AND MASHEROV SPOKE ON MAY 28. LAST YEAR'S
STATUS HAS DROPPED OR HE HAS SCHEDULING PROBLEMS SINCE
HE WAS TO SPEAK AMONG THE TOP THIRD IN 1974 (JUNE 10)
BUT FELL ILL.
STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ELECTION RESULTS, ELECTIONS, ELECTION CANDIDATES, POLITICAL LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ellisoob
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MOSCOW07395
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750188-0791
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975059/aaaaaibe.tel
Line Count: 112
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 MOSCOW 6710, 75 MAY 6, 75 1974
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ellisoob
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 MAY 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <24 SEP 2003 by ellisoob>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KIRILENKO AND MAZUROV RISE IN LEADERSHIP STATUS RANKING
TAGS: PINT, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006